

Fig 1
Prior Art

FIG. 2 is a block diagram of a system architecture for a multi-tiered supply chain. The system is organized into six tiers, starting from the top tier (Tier 1) and descending to the bottom tier (Tier 6). The top tier (Tier 1) consists of two main components: "First Tier Financial Institutions" and "First Tier Developer/Owner". Both of these components are connected to a central horizontal line. This line branches out to connect to the second tier (Tier 2), which includes "Second Tier Architect/Engineer", "Second Tier General Contractor", and "Second Tier Construction Manager". Each of these second-tier components is connected to the central line via a "Bill First Tier Entity" (labeled 122). The second tier components then connect to a third tier (Tier 3), which includes "Third Tier Equipment Vendor", "Third Tier Subcontractor", and "Third Tier Material Supplier". Each of these third-tier components is connected to the second-tier components via a "Bill Second Tier Entity" (labeled 132). The third tier components then connect to a fourth tier (Tier 4), which includes "Fourth Tier Equipment Vendor", "Fourth Tier Subcontractor", and "Fourth Tier Material Supplier". Each of these fourth-tier components is connected to the third-tier components via a "Bill Third Tier Entity" (labeled 142). The fourth tier components then connect to a fifth tier (Tier 5), which includes "Fifth Tier Equipment Vendor", "Fifth Tier Subcontractor", and "Fifth Tier Material Supplier". Each of these fifth-tier components is connected to the fourth-tier components via a "Bill Fourth Tier Entity" (labeled 152). Finally, the fifth tier components connect to a sixth tier (Tier 6), which includes "Sixth Tier Equipment Vendor", "Sixth Tier Subcontractor", and "Sixth Tier Material Supplier". Each of these sixth-tier components is connected to the fifth-tier components via a "Bill Fifth Tier Entity" (labeled 162). The diagram illustrates a complex, multi-tiered supply chain structure with multiple levels of subcontracting and material supply.

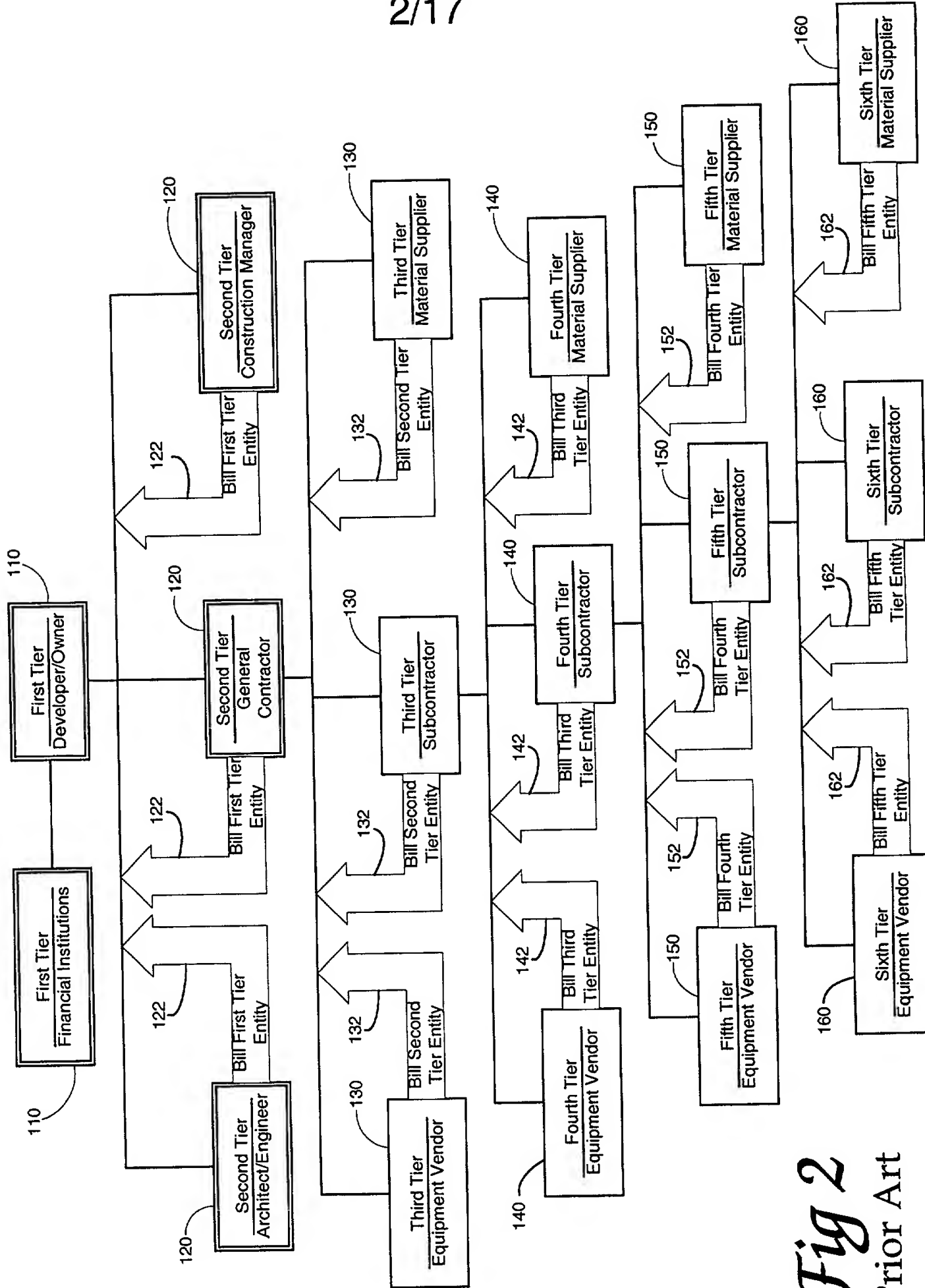


Fig 2
Prior Art

FIG. 3 is a block diagram of a system for providing a release of information to a third party. The system includes a first tier developer/owner (110) and a first tier financial institutions (110). The first tier developer/owner (110) is connected to a second tier architect/engineer (120) and a second tier general contractor (120). The first tier financial institutions (110) is connected to a second tier construction manager (120). The second tier architect/engineer (120) is connected to a third tier equipment vendor (130). The second tier general contractor (120) is connected to a third tier subcontractor (130). The second tier construction manager (120) is connected to a third tier material supplier (130). The third tier equipment vendor (130) is connected to a fourth tier equipment vendor (140). The third tier subcontractor (130) is connected to a fourth tier subcontractor (140). The third tier material supplier (130) is connected to a fourth tier material supplier (140). The fourth tier equipment vendor (140) is connected to a fifth tier equipment vendor (150). The fourth tier subcontractor (140) is connected to a fifth tier subcontractor (150). The fourth tier material supplier (140) is connected to a fifth tier material supplier (150). The fifth tier equipment vendor (150) is connected to a sixth tier equipment vendor (160). The fifth tier subcontractor (150) is connected to a sixth tier subcontractor (160). The fifth tier material supplier (150) is connected to a sixth tier material supplier (160). The sixth tier equipment vendor (160) is connected to a seventh tier equipment vendor (170). The sixth tier subcontractor (160) is connected to a seventh tier subcontractor (170). The sixth tier material supplier (160) is connected to a seventh tier material supplier (170).

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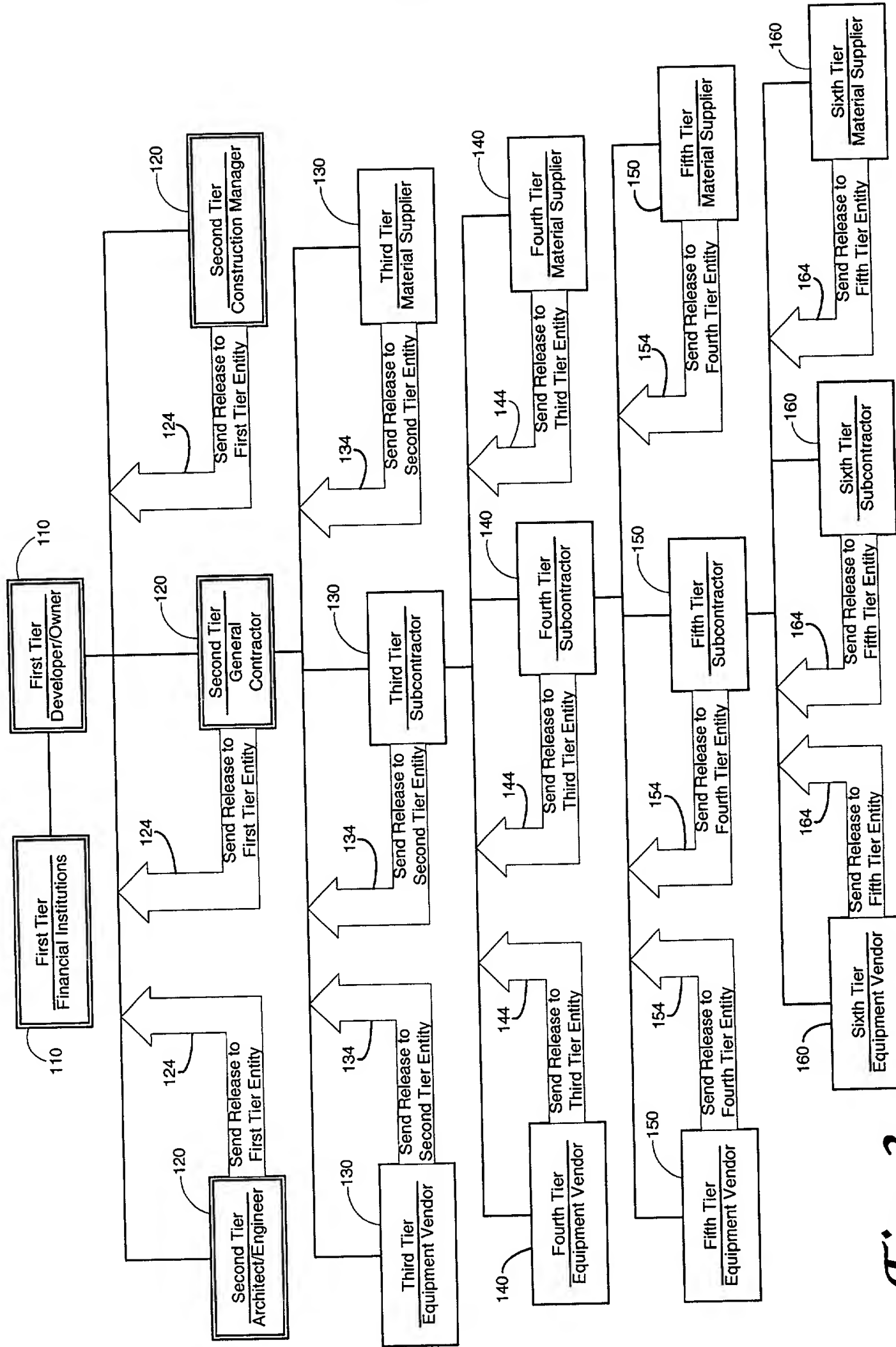


Fig. 3
Prior Art

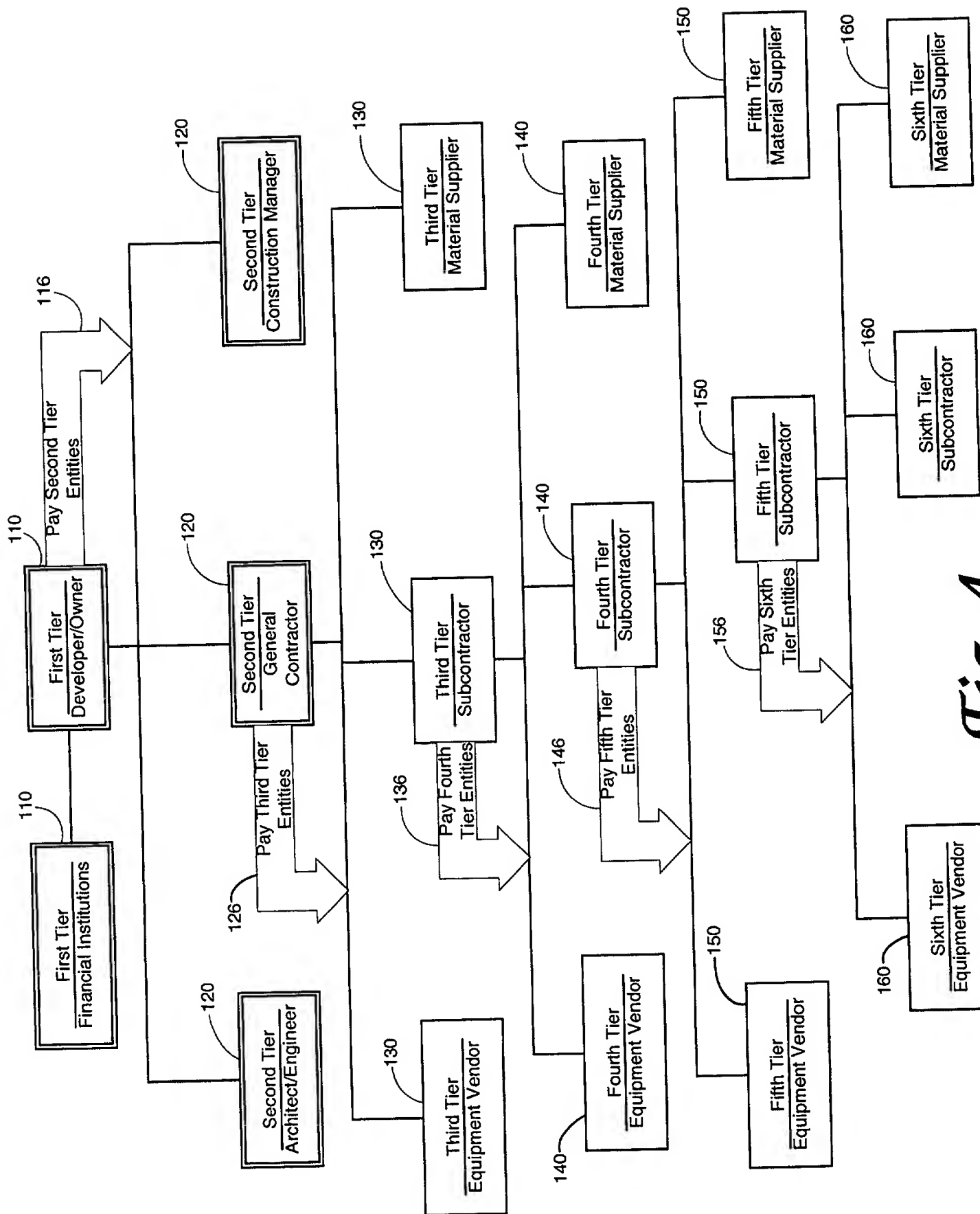


Fig. 4
Prior Art

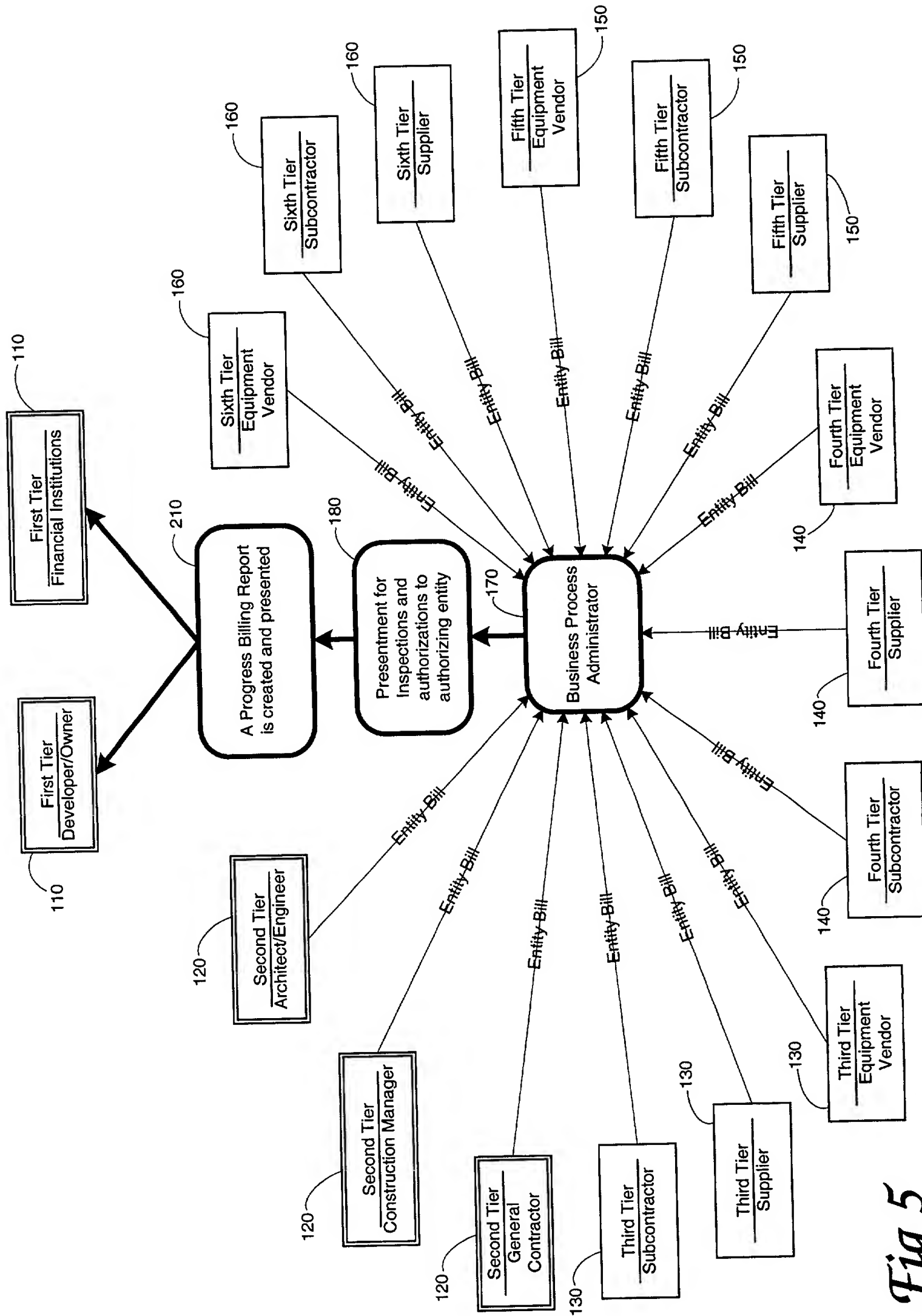


Fig 5

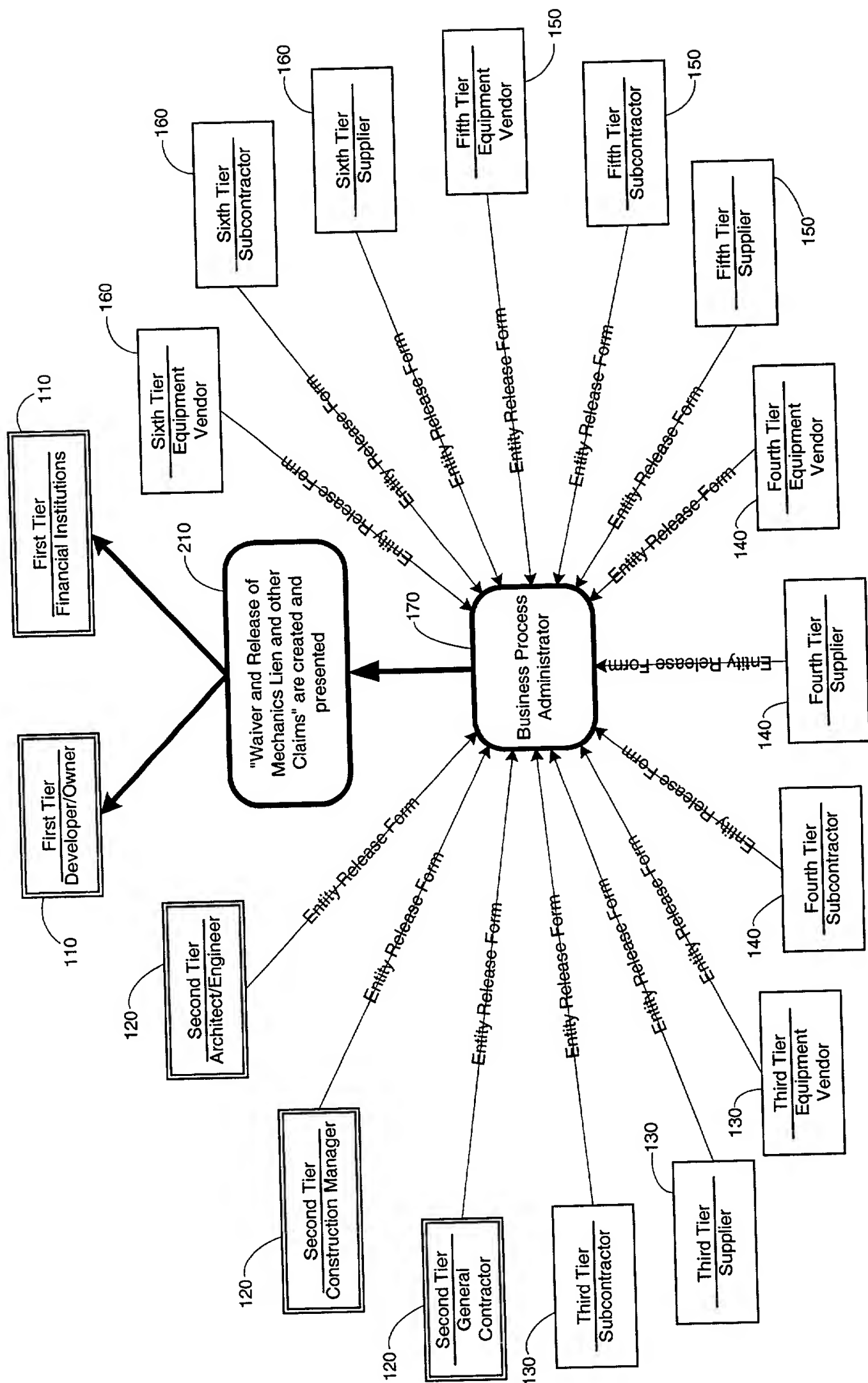


Fig 6



Fig 7

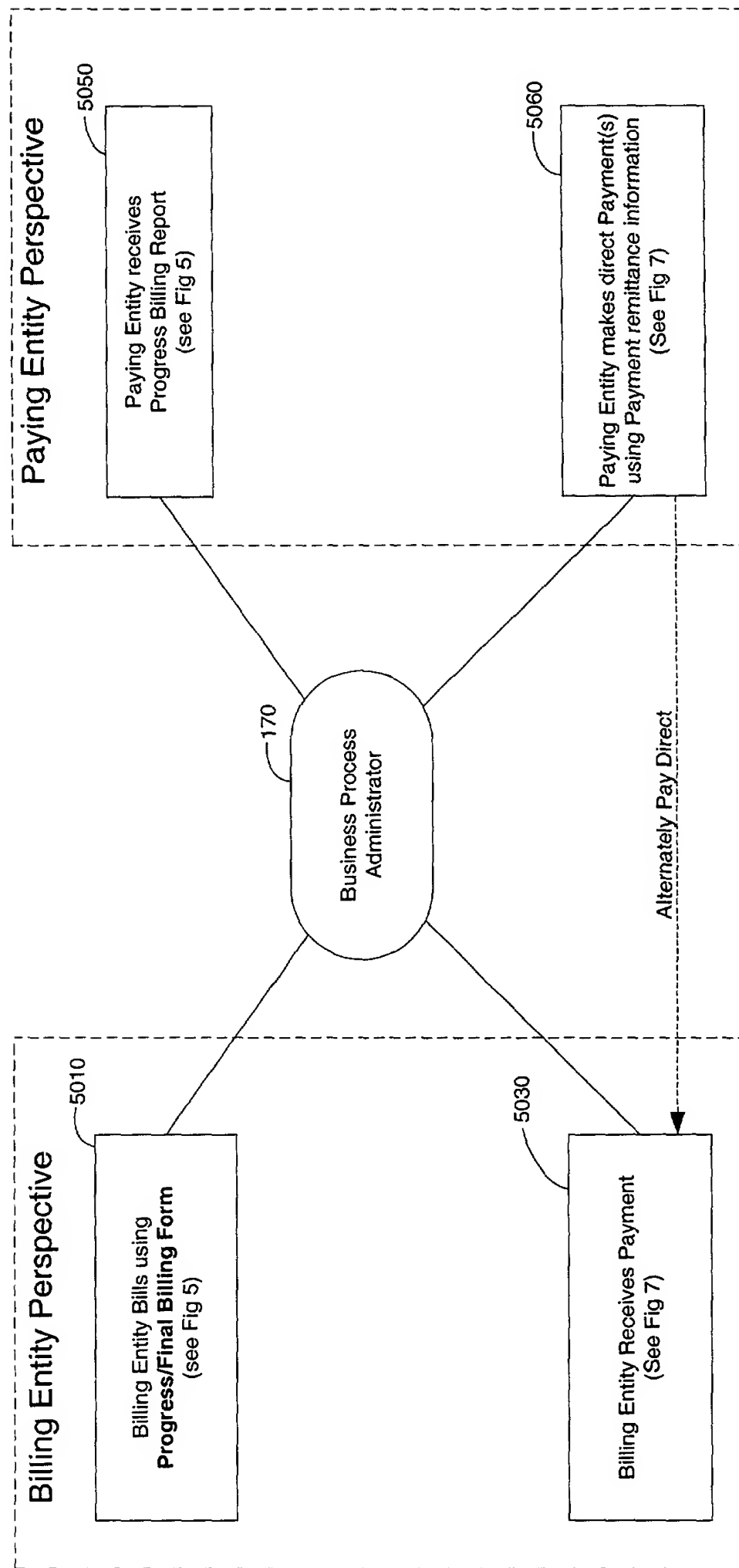


Fig 8

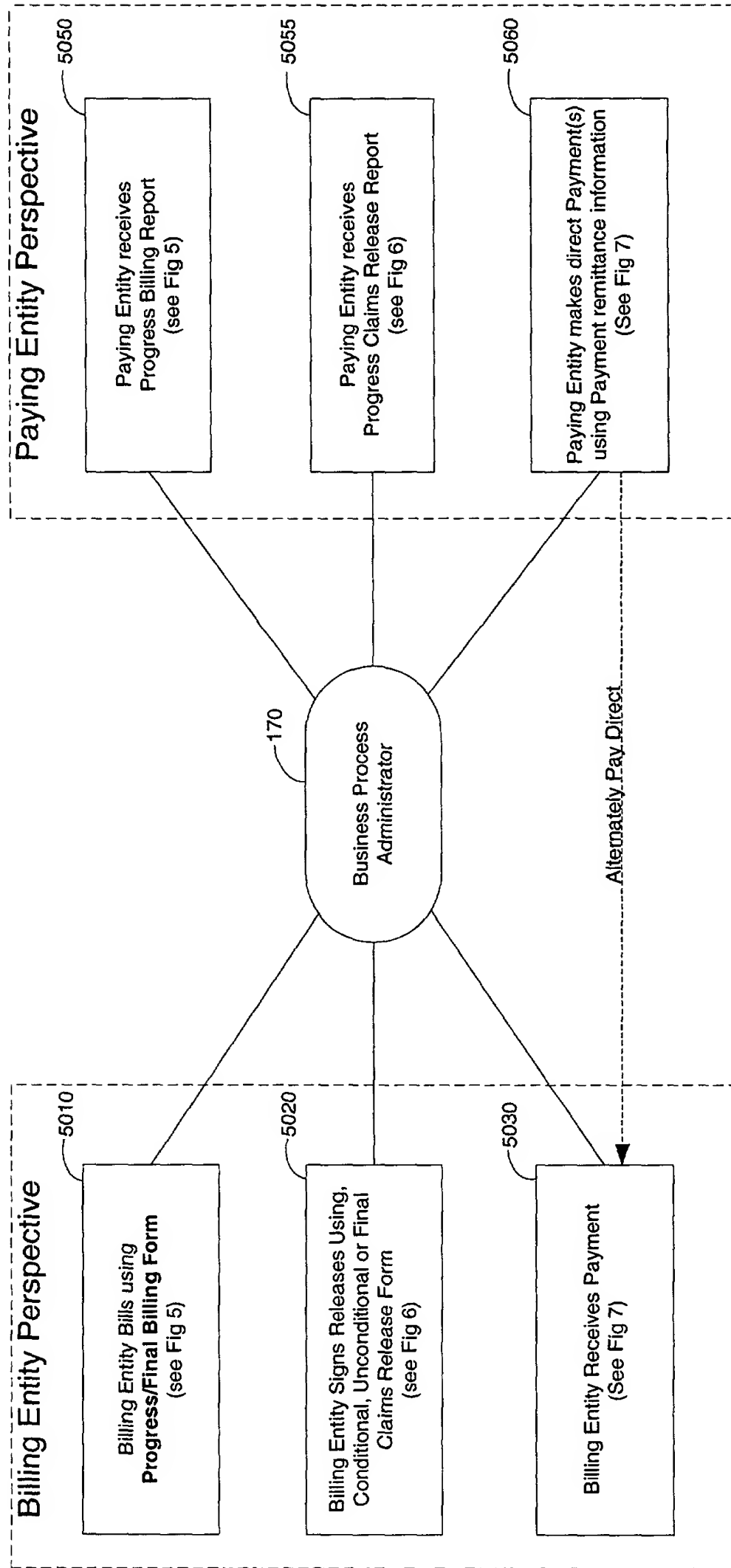


Fig 9

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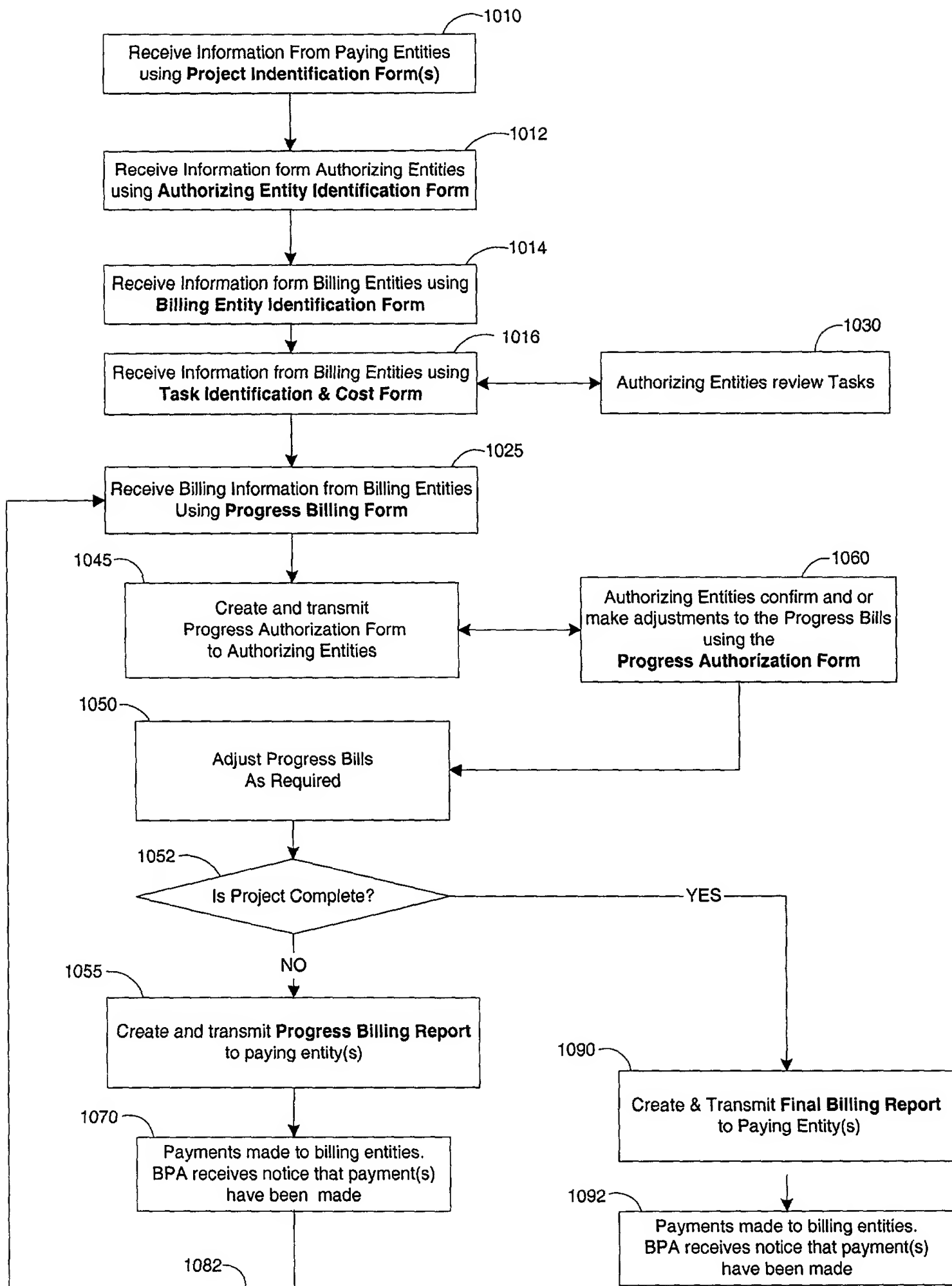


Fig 10

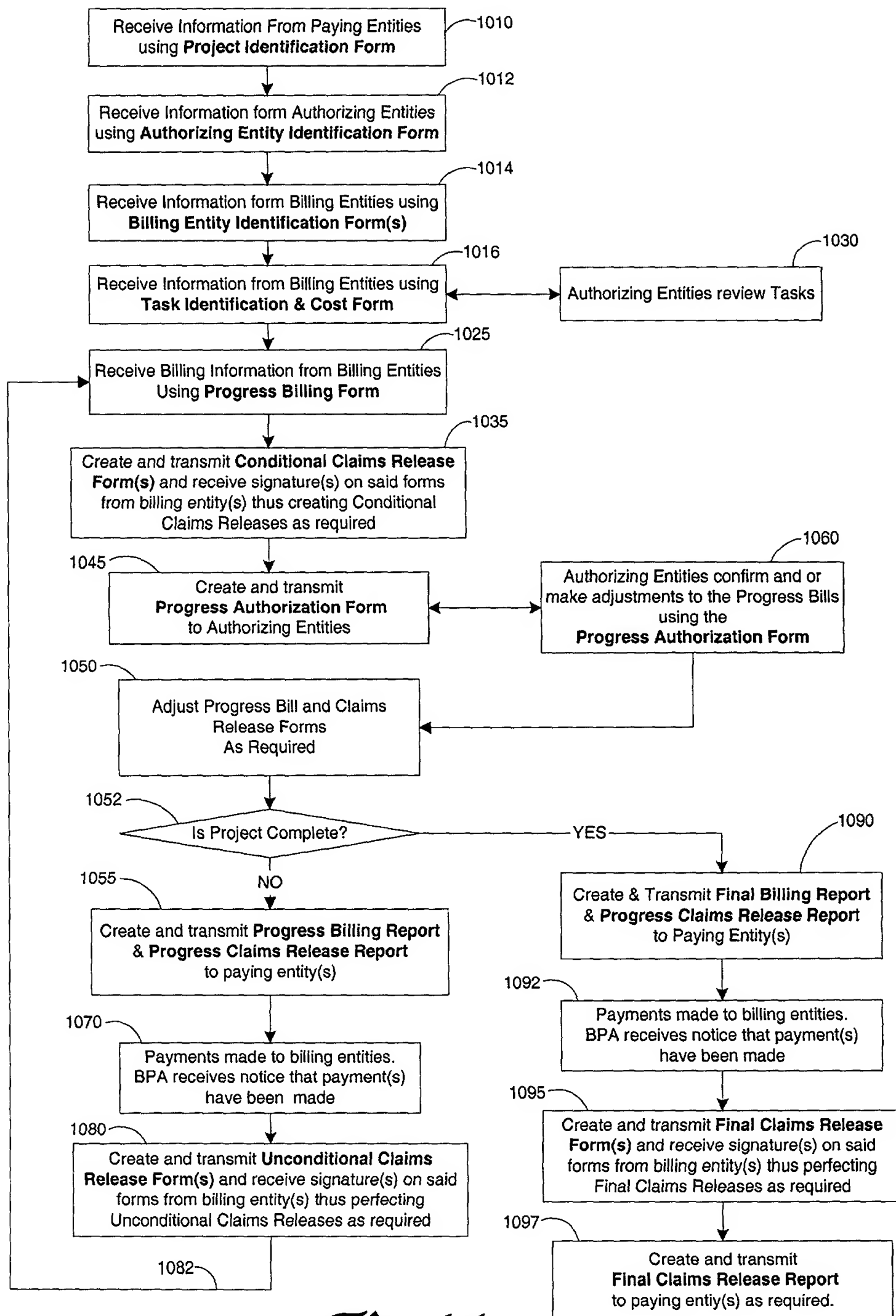


Fig 11

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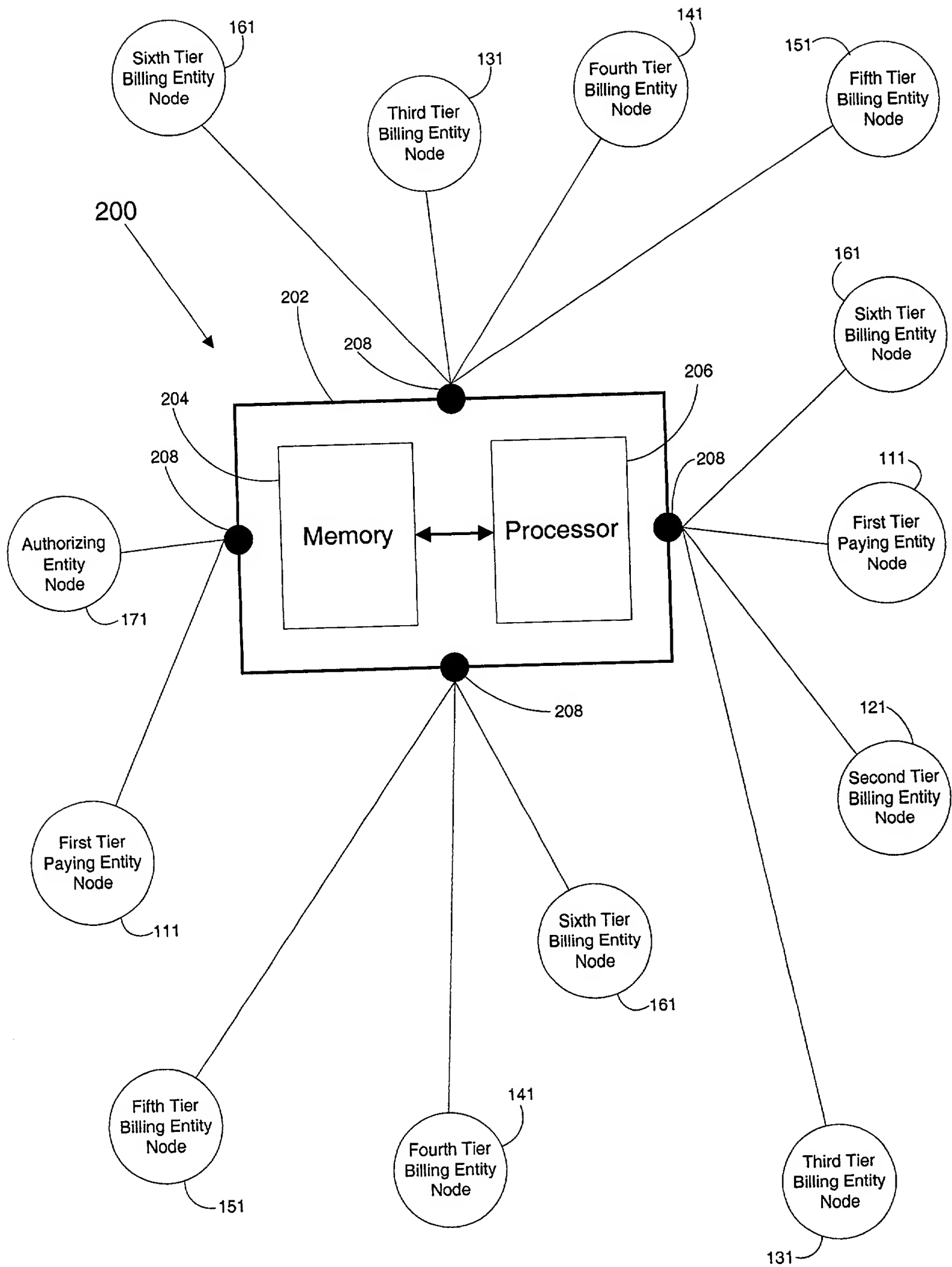
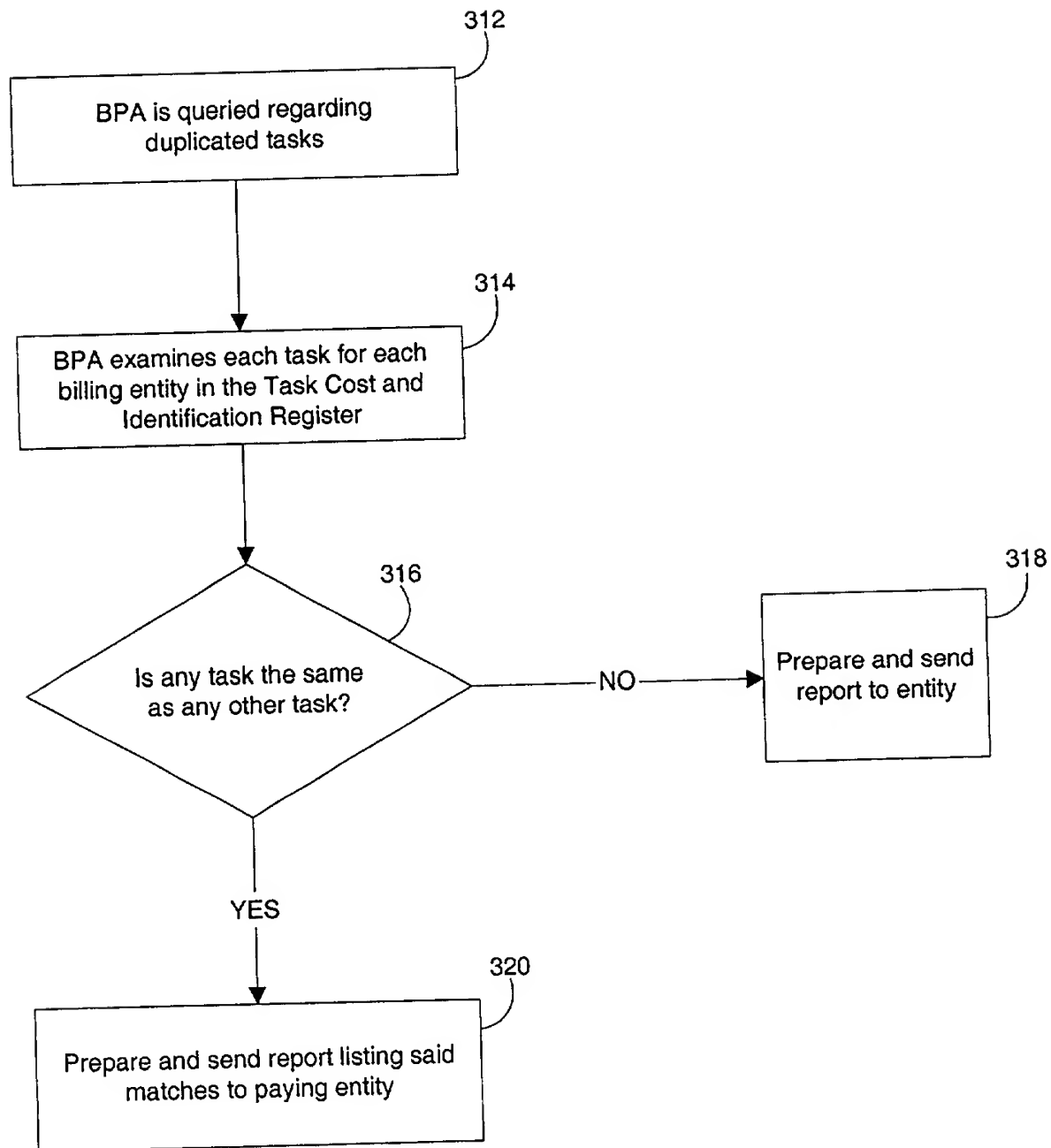
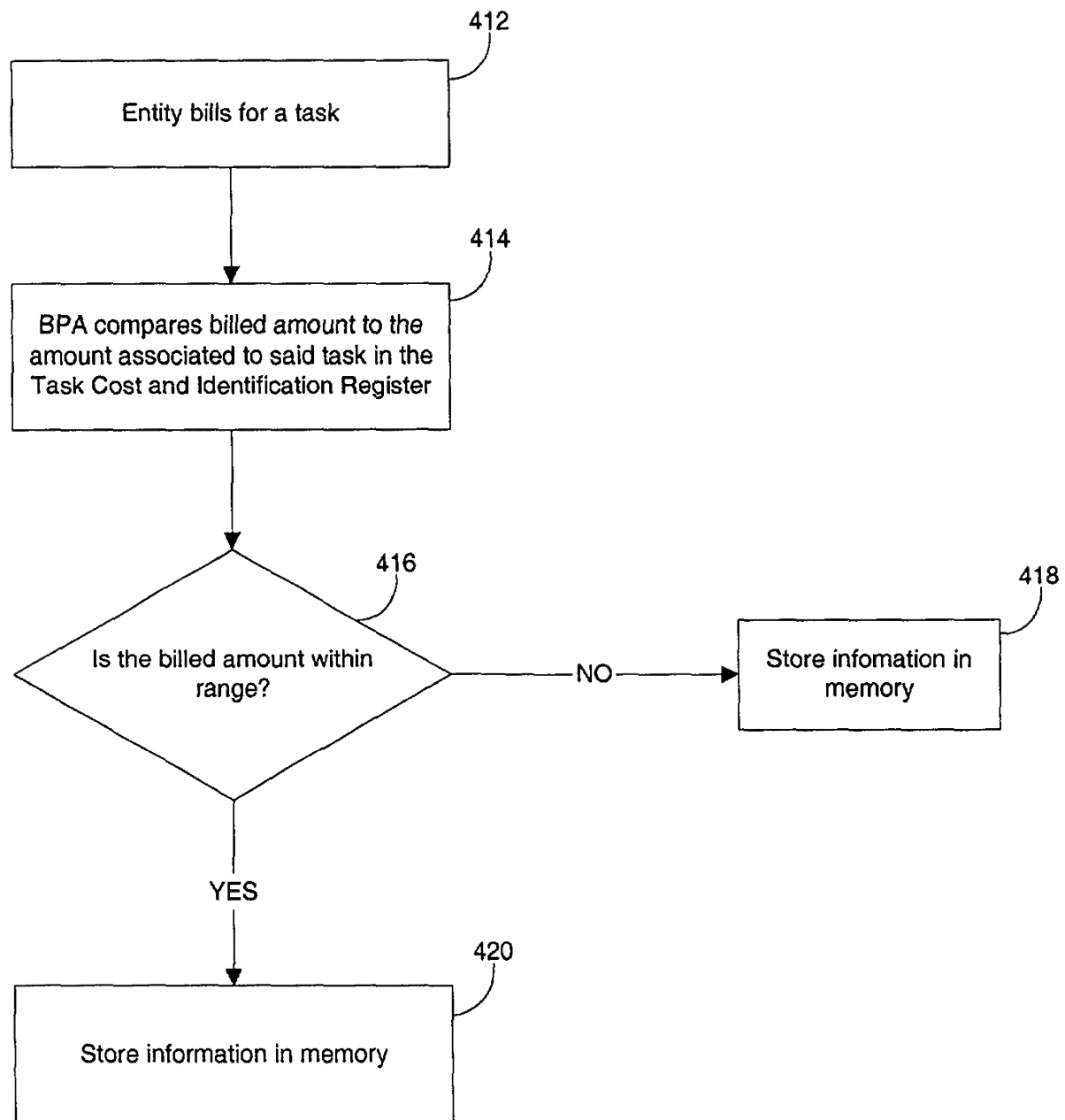


Fig. 12

*Fig 13*

*Fig 14*

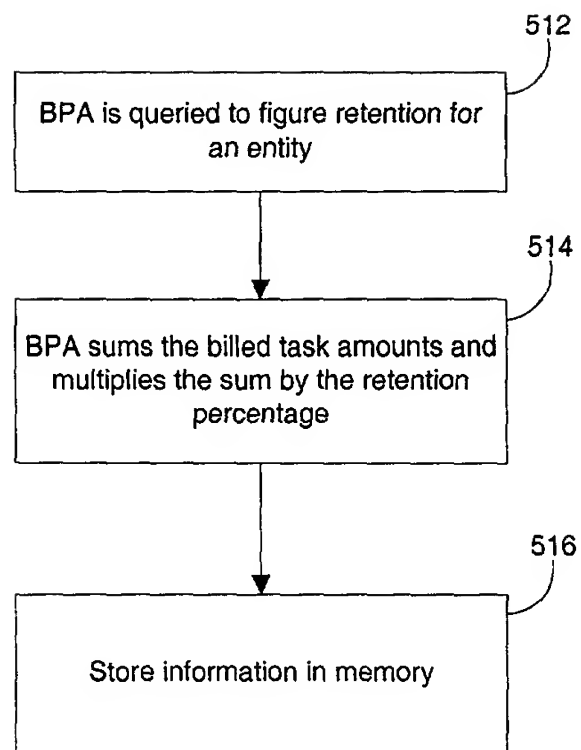


Fig 15

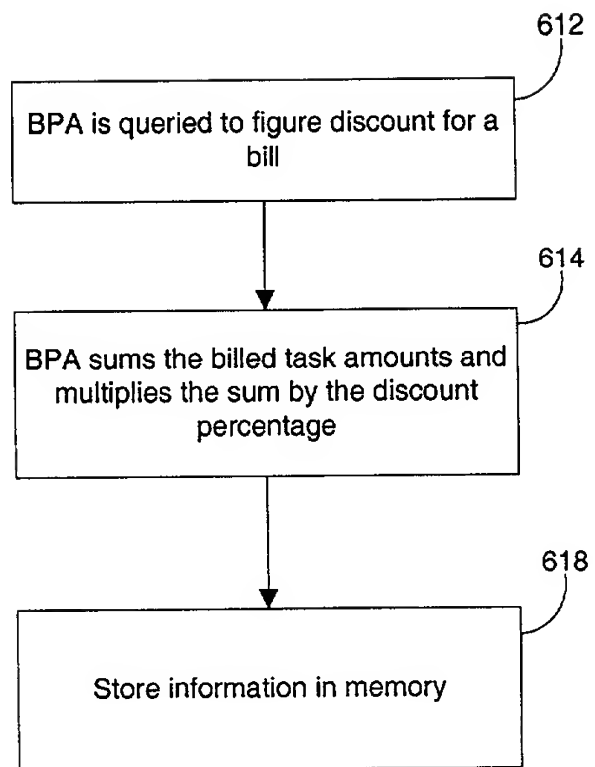


Fig 16

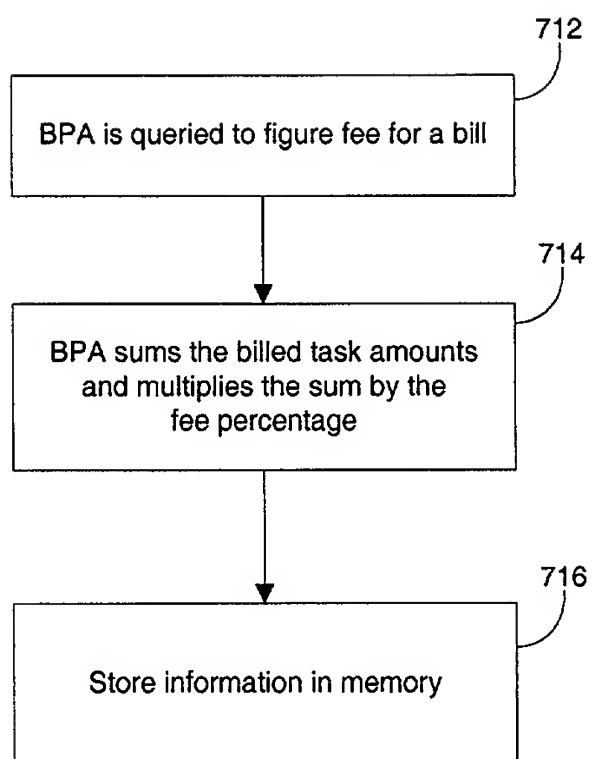


Fig 17